

SCI1.PAU.01US

PATENT APPLICATION

In Re application of:  
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Examiner: Eastwood, David C.  
Fax: 571-270-8135

Application No.: 10/575,500

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: April 11, 2006

Confirmation No.: 3932

For: EASILY RETRIEVED BIOLOGICAL  
SPECIMEN POUCH

Interview Agenda and Proposed Claim  
Amendments

**AGENDA AND PROPOSED CLAIMS FOR JUNE 11, 2010 INTERVIEW**

Dear Examiner Eastwood:

Applicant hereby submits proposed amended claims for review before the interview scheduled for June 11, 2010. Agenda points are submitted as well.

**Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.**

**Agenda begins on page 7 of this paper.**

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**Proposed Amendments to the Claims**

Claim 1 (currently amended): An easily retrieved biological specimen pouch comprising:  
 a flexible wall (1-1), an open end (1-2) and a closed end (1-3), and said specimen pouch  
 (1) is configured for receiving a biological specimen (9) during micro-invasive surgery through a  
 small incision in a patient therein;

A) said flexible wall of the open end of the specimen pouch has discontinuous  
 serration (1-4);

B) on said serration (1-4), there are slots (1-5) through which a string can pass,  
 wherein the string is configured for automatically forcing open[[s]] and closes the specimen  
 pouch via shape memory expansion, wherein the string opens the specimen pouch when heated,  
and a force applied to the string in a direction away from the specimen pouch closes the  
specimen pouch.

wherein said slots (1-5) are shaped in the open end (1-2) of the specimen pouch by a  
 thermoplastic jointing of the flexible wall (1-1), and then the flexible wall (1-1) of the open end  
 (1-2) is cut into said discontinuous serration (1-4);

wherein one end of the said string (2) is connected with a slipknot or slip block (7), a noose  
 structure is formed when the other end passes through the slots (1-5) in the serration (1-4) of the  
 open end in the specimen pouch and then the slipknot or slip block (7).

Claim 2 (previously presented): The biological specimen pouch according to claim 1, wherein

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said string (2) is made of any materials which can save the changed shape and return to the original or near the original shape when disentangled.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The biological specimen pouch according to claim 2, wherein said string (2) is made of the following materials: shape memory alloy wires or pieces or alloy spring steel.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The biological specimen pouch according to claim 1, wherein said string is an open spring (3) made of any materials which can save a changed shape and return to an original shape or near the original shape when disentangled.

Claim 5 (original): The biological specimen pouch according to claim 4, wherein said open spring (3) is made of the following materials: shape memory alloy wires, shape memory alloy pieces and alloy spring steel.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The biological specimen pouch according to claim 1, wherein said string is a retrieval noose (4) and is made of wires of macromolecule materials, compound materials or metal materials.

Claim 7 (original): The biological specimen pouch according to claim 1, wherein said flexible wall (1-1) of the specimen pouch is made of the soft macromolecule materials or compound

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materials.

Claim 8 (original): The biological specimen pouch according to claim 1, wherein said flexible wall (1-1) of the specimen pouch is made of the soft macromolecule materials or compound materials which are enhanced by metal net or synthetic fibre.

Claim 9 (original): The biological specimen pouch according to claim 1, wherein said flexible wall (1-1) of the specimen pouch is made of the soft macromolecule materials or compound materials which are enhanced by memory alloy fibre net or synthetic fibre net.

Claim 10 (original): The biological specimen pouch as claimed in any one of claims 7 to 9, wherein said soft macromolecule materials are selected from the following elastomer or polymer materials: Silicon Rubber, Polyurethane, Polyethylene, Polypropylene, Silicone, Ethenoid Resin and Polytetrafluoroethylene.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The biological specimen pouch according to claim 1, wherein said string (2) is connected to a distant end (5-1) of an inner sheath (5), and the specimen pouch (1) is installed in front of the distant end (5-1) of the inner sheath and inside a distant end (6-1) of an outer sheath (6).

Claim 12 (canceled)

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Claim 13 (original): The biological specimen pouch according to claim 1, wherein said the relative position of the outer sheath (5) and inner sheath (6) is fixed by the orientation button (8).

Claim 14 (original): The biological specimen pouch according to claim 1, wherein said open end (1-2) of the specimen pouch is colored distinctly from the biological specimen (9) observed under the endoscopic equipment.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A biological specimen retrieval pouch comprising:

a flexible wall;  
 an open end and a closed end, wherein the specimen retrieval pouch is configured for receiving a biological specimen during micro-invasive surgery through a small incision in a patient therein, the flexible wall of the open end of the specimen pouch has discontinuous serration, the serration includes channels through which a pouch deployment and retrieval string can pass, wherein the pouch deployment and retrieval string is configured for automatically forcing wherein the string-open[[s]] the specimen pouch via shape memory expansion when heated, and a force applied to the deployment and retrieval string in a direction away from the specimen pouch closes the specimen pouch.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The biological specimen retrieval pouch of claim 15, wherein the pouch deployment and retrieval string is made of a material having shape memory.

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Claim 17 (previously presented): The biological specimen retrieval pouch of claim 16, wherein the pouch deployment and retrieval string returns to its original shape based on temperature.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The biological specimen retrieval pouch of claim 17, wherein the temperature is in the range of 15°C–33°C.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A biological specimen retrieval pouch comprising:

a flexible wall;

an open end and a closed end, wherein the specimen retrieval pouch is configured for receiving a biological specimen during micro-invasive surgery through a small incision in a patient therein, the flexible wall of the open end of the specimen pouch has discontinuous serration, the serration includes channels through which a pouch deployment and retrieval string can pass, wherein the pouch deployment and retrieval string is configured for automatically forcing open[[s]] and closes the specimen retrieval pouch via shape memory expansion, wherein the string opens the specimen pouch when heated, and a force applied to the deployment and retrieval string in a direction away from the specimen pouch closes the specimen pouch.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The biological specimen retrieval pouch of claim 16, wherein the pouch deployment and retrieval string returns to an open state based on temperature of a body.

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INTERVIEW AGENDA

Below is an abbreviated interview agenda including topics planned for discussion:

1. Discuss the discontinuous serration limitation including the following:
  - A. The purpose of the discontinuous serration limitation.
  - B. The difference between the currently cited prior art regarding the discontinuous serration.
2. Discuss the proposed amendments regarding how the pouch string opens and closes the pouch, including:
  - A. Whether the proposed limitations appear to overcome the currently cited prior art (before a further search and/or consideration is performed).
  - B. Alternative amendments
3. Discuss other potential distinguishing features between the invention and the currently cited prior art.

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Respectfully submitted,

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